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VIA U.P.S. OVERNIGHT

Mr. Vernon Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 "K" St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**RE: Notice of Consummation -- STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub. No. 171X),
Union Pacific Railroad Company - Abandonment Exemption - in
Washington County, Illinois (Sparta Branch)**

Dear Mr. Williams:

This is to advise the Surface Transportation Board ("Board") that the Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") has consummated the abandonment of the 18.10 mile line of railroad from Milepost 41.10 near Oakdale to the end of track at Milepost 23.00 near Hoyleton, all in Washington County, Illinois (the "Line"), pursuant to authority granted in the Board's Decisions served on August 1, 2003, August 27, 2003, August 28, 2003 and September 29, 2003.

In accordance with the Board's decisions, UP has satisfied all outstanding conditions to abandonment and will consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the "CORP") and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 ("EPA") regarding the conditions imposed on UP prior to commencing salvage activities on the Line.

Ten (10) copies of the Notice of Consummation are included for use by the Board.

Sincerely,

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.
Senior General Attorney, Law Department

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